TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TANNERY AND LETHER MANUFACTURE

11

Project
Tannery + Leather

WEEKLY LETTER EXCERPTS

FOR INFORMATION OF: The files March 28, 1953

From Series Letter 39, dated March 16, received March 26, 1953

Tannery and Leather ~~Manufacturing~~ Manufacture: This would appear to be a proper technical assistance project in the Commerce and industry field and we will be glad to cooperate on any assistance required. Contracting for personnel service cannot be used to avoid the time required to obtain security clearance. This whole question is the subject of a policy paper which is expected to be issued shortly.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

I have not seen Embassy Despatch 216 on the subject of "Saudi Firms Seek U. S. Technicians" but I will look into it. I have already reported on the interest of the SAG in technical aid on the local tanning and leather project but so far no official request has been received.

Embassy Despatch No. 216: I have read this despatch and can add very little to it. I have visited the printing plant with the managing director who is also the Director of Agriculture, Sayyid Ahmed Obaid. There is no doubt as th the need of the company for a manager with technical knowledge of all phases of printing, but I am not sure whether the conditions under which he is called on to work will prove satisfactory.

tanning & leather

The tanning and leather plant is obviously the one I wrote about some time ago in connection with technical advice. It was presented to me as a plant in which the SAG had a substantial interest. This was probably not an attempt to deceive since very few people here can distinguish between the interests of the Government and those of high Government officials, such as Mohammed Suroor.

Field Series Letter

#6
3/14/53

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Things are moving along smoothly in general. My best personal regards to you and to staff at the Saudi Arabian desk.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Dunaway
Acting U. S. Director of
Technical Cooperation in
Saudi Arabia

Expected Requests: I have been informally approached by the SAG officials for technical assistance on the following projects. My reply in each instance was to the effect that if the request comes officially it will receive careful consideration.

(a) Tannery and Leather Manufacture

Letter 3
2/14

The SAG, in some sort of partnership with a Greek national, has about completed a tannery and leather factory. The partner who was supposed to know the business died a short time ago and there is no one here with technical ability to run the plant or indeed to advise the SAG as to its economic feasibility. What will be required, I think, will be the service of an expert for six months or so. Due to time required for regular recruitment,

PROGRAM (Continued)
Expected Requests
(a) Tannery and Leather Manufacture (Cont'd)

I believe it will be best to operate on a contract basis. This is not a request for recruitment but merely to report a probable request.

From Series Letter #35 dated February 6, 1953, received February 17

"We would be most interested in receiving your comments on Embassy Despatch 216, January 19, Subject: Saudi Firms Seek U. S. Technicians.

"We note that one is the Saudi Tanning and leather works which seeks a complete outlay of modern tranning machinery and other equipment, and that the company also wishes to hire skilled operators and a manager from abroad. We would suggest that Mr. Bode, who has had a number of years experience as a senior officer in American tanning companies, might be of assistance. "

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